be welcomed if they agree to drop the Soft Drink proposal, since this industry does not require foreign collaboration.

(12) The proposal is contrary to all established policy of the Government in respect of imports of raw materials.

The points made in the representation will be taken into account at the time of consideration of the proposal for association of M/s. Pepsico.

Prices of tyres and tubes

1805. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of tyres and tubes have been increased recently;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) when the prices of the above items were increased last and the percentage increased affected this time; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to control the prices of tyres and tubes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association, an apex body of the tyre manufacturers, have informed Government that they had to increase the prices of automotive tyres by 5 per cent and tubes by 6 to 7 per cent in May, 1986, on account of rise in cost of inputs as well as other factors which influence the cost of the end products such as salary, wages, freight, administrative expenses, etc. Prior to this, the tyre manufacturers had announced increase in the prices of tyres and tubes in March, 1985.

(d) There is no statutory control on the prices/distribution of tyres at present. In the absence of control on prices of raw materials and conversion costs and the prevailing competitive market conditions, prices are determined by market forces of demand and supply. The Government has been using persuasive methods by interacting with both the tyre industry and raw material manufacturers in the matter.

Import of manufacture of vehicles with Japanese collaboration

1806. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the introduction of new generation of vehicles especially with Japanese collaboration is proving to be a major set-back to the manufacture of aout-components in India; and

(b) if so, how Government to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The indigenous manufacturers have been adequately meeting the demand of auto components both in terms of quantity and quality. With the introduction of new ranges of vehicles in various categories, Govt. have encouraged the component manufacturers to augment the production and upgrade the technology through new foreign collaborations, fiscal concessions and delicensing etc. to meet the requirements of new generation of vehicles.

Lok Adalats

1807. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Lok Adalats held in each State and Union Territory during the year 1985 and from January to July, 1986;